



green tips

GREEN WEEK 2014

"Purchasing Day" - February 11

DID YOU KNOW?

- Green purchasing is the practice of choosing environmentally-friendly products and services, thereby reducing greenhouse gas emissions, cutting solid waste and conserving energy. It can also improve an organization's bottom line by cutting costs, enhance the public image and improve employee health.
- Green purchasing can have a big impact on an organization's bottom line. Hundreds of environmentally preferable products are competitive in terms of quality, while costing the same or even less than comparable conventional alternatives, over the life of the product. Many of these products also use less energy, water, fuel and other resources, saving additional money. Since environmentally preferable products are designed to generate little or no waste, they help reduce or eliminate the cost of waste and/or hazardous material management.
- City of Eau Claire staff and the communities in the vicinity of our operations benefit from green purchasing practices through cleaner air and water. In turn, this helps us avoid costs related to worker health and safety, and can lower environmental risk costs.

EVERYDAY "GREEN" PURCHASING TIPS:

- Use the City's [Green Purchasing Policy](#) to guide you.
- Reduce your packaging: buy bulk or concentrated products.
- Reduce toxicity: recycle batteries and use ones with reduced mercury.
- Select reusable products: washable utensils, tableware, cloth napkins, and dishcloths can be used many times.
- Use durable products: choose furniture, sports equipment, toys, and tools that will stand the test of time.
- Reuse products: reuse newspaper, boxes, shipping peanuts, and bubble wrap to ship packages.
- Recycle automotive products: take car batteries, antifreeze, and motor oil to participating recycling centers.
- Buy products made from recycled materials.
- You can dry your hands effectively using only ONE paper towel: just **SHAKE and FOLD**.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

["What is Product Stewardship?"](#)

[Stop Waste](#)

[Office Depot's Green Buying Guide](#)

[Responsible Shopper](#)

[The Green Guide](#)

[The Center for a New American Dream](#)



video:

["REUSABLE IS BETTER"](#)

STARRING JILL

GREEN OFFICE SUPPLIES PURCHASED BY CITY DEPARTMENTS

Year	% Purchased
2008	63.0%
2009	57.7%
2010	38.1% *
2011	34.4%
2012	53.0%
2013	58.0%
* Supplier's "green" criteria changed	



Compostable products are used at all of the City's Parks and Recreation facilities!